

collecting B-cells from the test sample; and  
testing the B-cells for the presence of prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.

36. (New). A method of testing for the presence of prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy in a test sample, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;  
collecting T-cells from the test sample; and  
testing the T-cells for the presence of prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.

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cont  
  
37. (New). A method to test for the presence of prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy in a test sample, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;  
collecting B-cells and T-cells from said test sample; and  
testing the B-cells and T-cells for the presence of prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.

38. (New). A method for identifying the presence of prions in B-cells, wherein said prions are associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;  
collecting B-cells from said test sample;  
adding a ligand to the isolated B-cells, wherein said ligand is capable of identifying B-cells infected with prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy; and  
identifying the presence of prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.

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*C-1*

39. (New). A method for identifying the presence of prions in T-cells, wherein said prions are associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;  
collecting T-cells from said test sample;  
adding a ligand to the isolated T-cells, wherein said ligand is capable of identifying T-cells that are infected with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy; and  
identifying the presence of prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.

40. (New). A method for identifying the presence of prions in B-cells and T-cells, wherein said prions are associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;  
collecting B-cells and T-cells from said test sample;  
adding a ligand to the isolated B-cells and T-cells, wherein said ligand is capable of identifying B-cells and T-cells that are infected with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy; and  
identifying the presence of prions associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION

*C<sub>2</sub>* Please delete the title and add the following new title: Methods for Identifying  
Prions Associated With Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy

*C<sub>3</sub>* On page 1, line 4, please insert "This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C.  
Section 371 to PCT/EP98/08271 filed on December 16, 1997."